

Tenable Security Center Interface

Michael Wornow

Mentors: John Donaldson¹ and Matthew Myrick¹

¹Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory



Introduction

Tenable's Security Center is a standalone commercial product that regularly scans network assets for vulnerabilities and malware. It comes with a robust set of features that enable the data it compiles to be filtered, sorted, and displayed in a variety of ways.

Problem

Despite it's capabilities, the **Security Center** web application doesn't integrate nicely into the **Secure Operations Center (SOC)** and **Splunk database** that LLNL currently uses to monitor its networks.

Thus, it is often difficult for security analysts to detect patterns between data collected by Security Center and data collected by other network monitoring tools.

Solution

In order to integrate Security Center's valuable network and vulnerability data into the SOC and Splunk, I used **Security Center's API** to pull data from the Security Center database and push that data into a separate interface that could then be fully integrated within LLNL's SOC and Splunk database.

Method

The Security Center API offers a vuln:query method that returns a JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) string of data.

The two most relevant datasets for this interface were:

- **SumIP** a list of IP's and their scan results
- VulnDetails a detailed rundown of the vulnerabilities of a specific IP

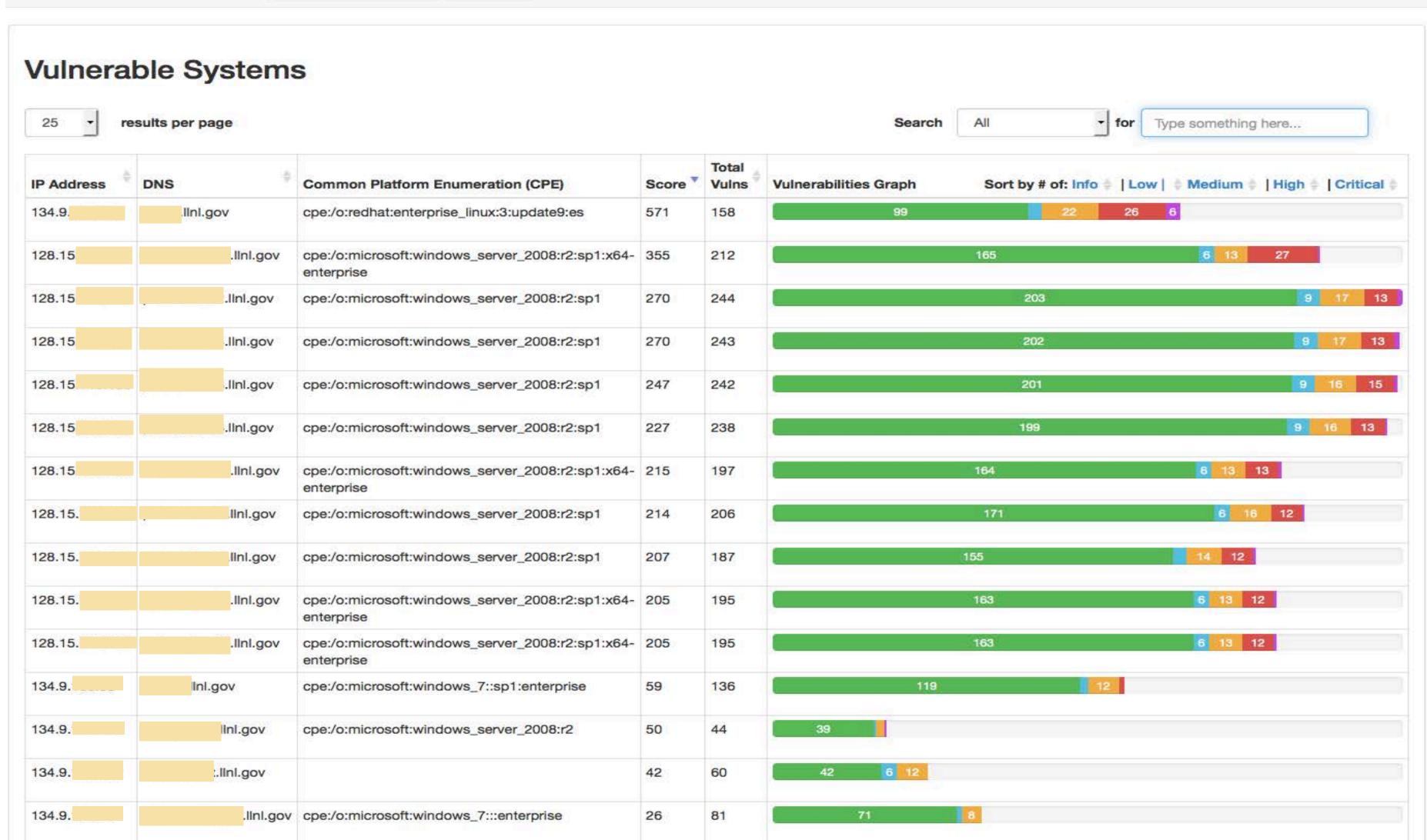
I used PHP **cURL requests** to get data from the Security Center database. Then I displayed the results in a paginated, sortable, and searchable table.

Interface Views

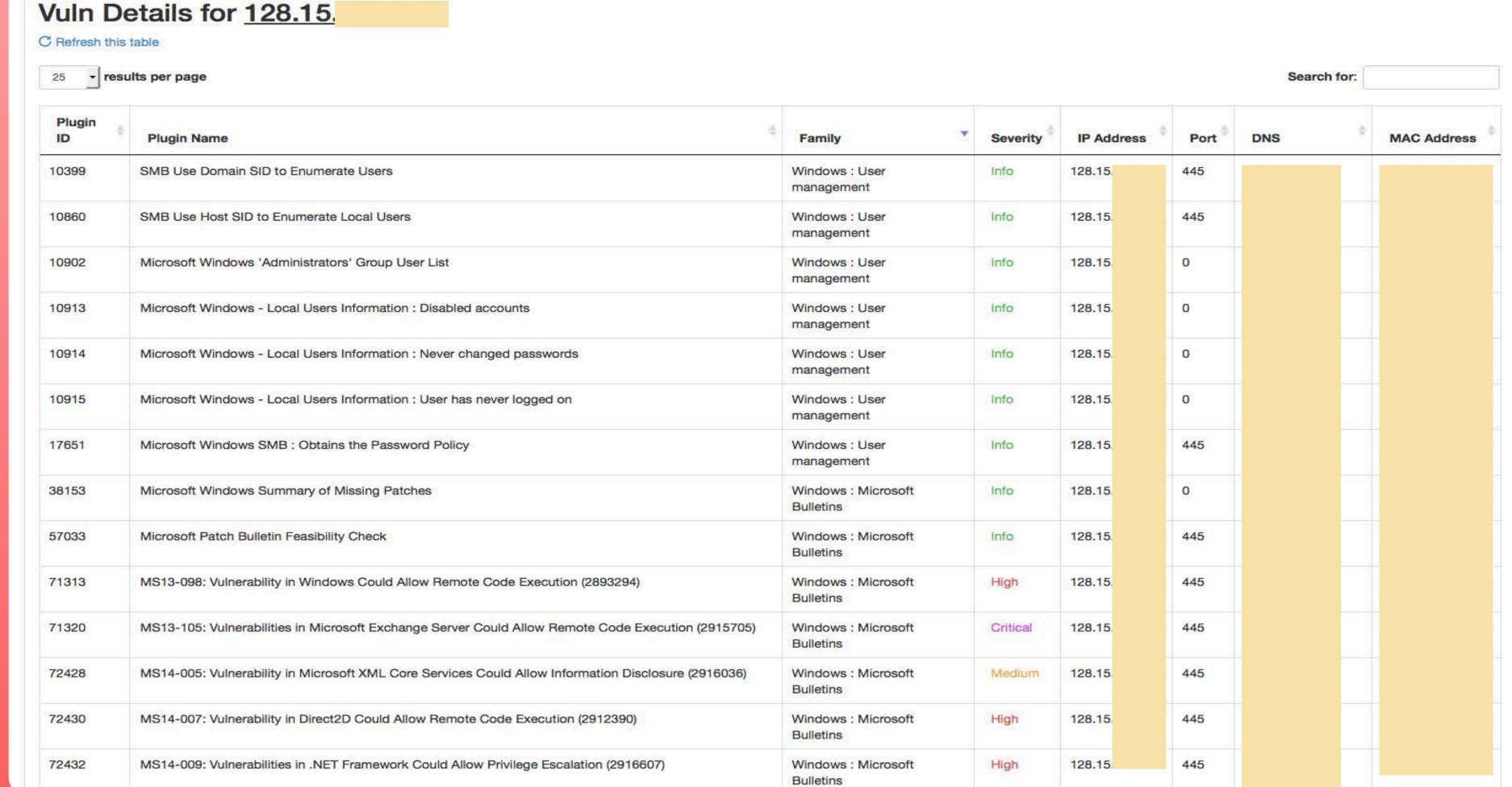
Tenable Database Interface Search for an IP

< Go back to the Vulnerable Systems Table

1. Index.php: Returns a list of IP addresses with their overall scan results.

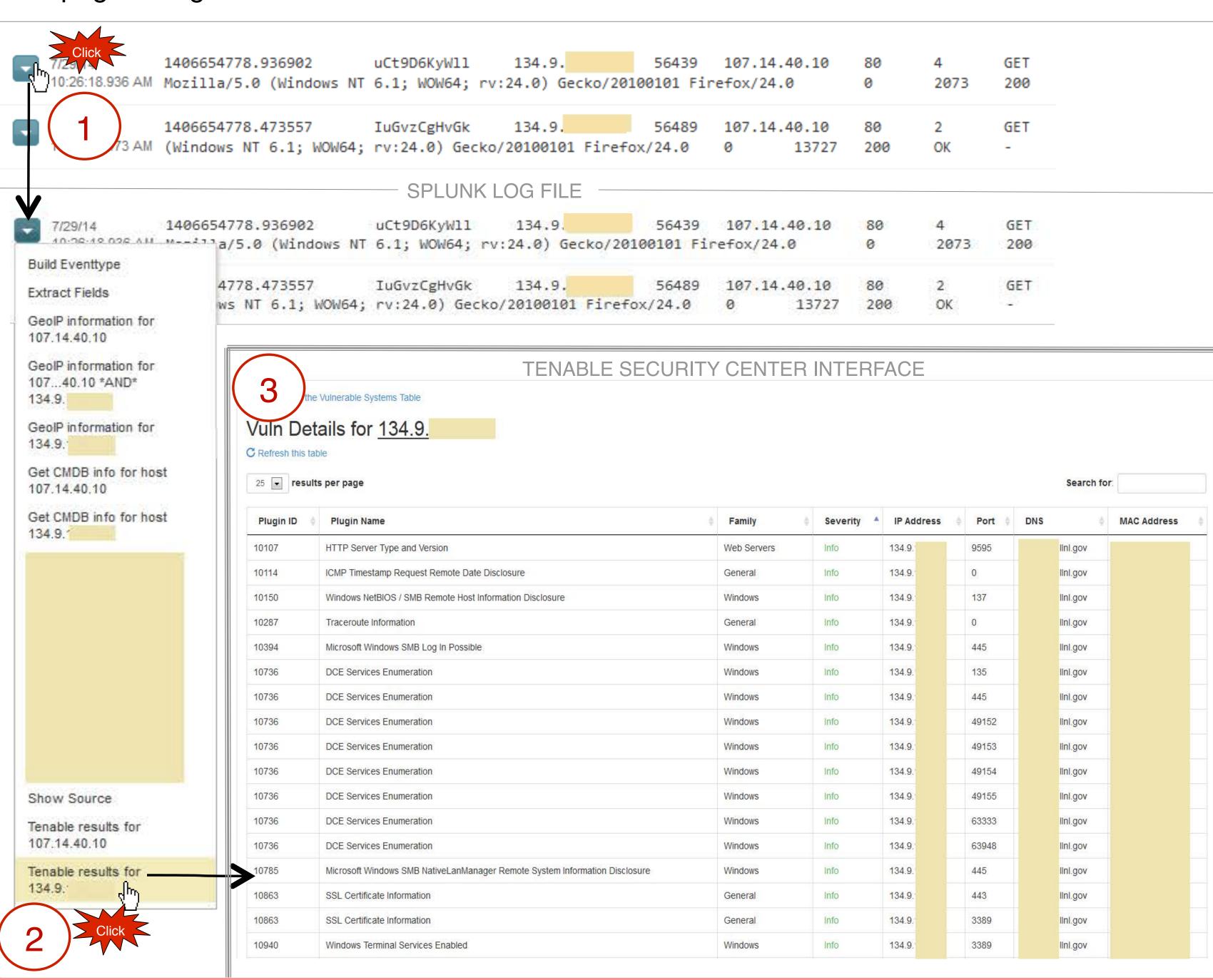


2. VulnDetails.php: Provides detailed information on all of the vulnerabilities of a specific IP address. Requires a **GET** parameter called **ip**, which holds the IP address you want to get vulnerability data on.



Splunk Integration

A simple link from LLNL's **Splunk** database to **vulndetails.php?ip=**<*insert ip here*> returns a webpage listing all the vulnerabilities for that IP.



Conclusion

The **Tenable Security Center Interface** cleanly integrates with Splunk and the SOC, fetches data from Security Center almost instantly, and displays the data in an easy to read table.

Future Work

The only limitations that I encountered for this project stemmed from the Security Center API itself, for there were inconsistencies in the way that datasets were returned. Sort functionality was largely missing, and several API calls didn't accept start/end offsets. These minor issues required unnecessary data filtering in my PHP files and more GET requests to be sent to Security Center than it should have needed.

In the future, I would like to change how my interface fetches data in order to improve its speed. This would entail **caching data** to avoid repetitive requests, creating **faster algorithms** to filter IPs, and giving the user more **precise options** to specify what data is needed.